

REMARKS

I. Preliminary Matters:

Claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 10 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 10 presently stand rejected.

II. IDS

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to return the initialed PTO/SB/08 filed with the Information Disclosure Statement on January 28, 2009.

III. Claim Rejections - § 112:

Claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants amend claims 1 and 4 to remove any ambiguities.

IV. Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

Claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Barrera (5,965,256) in view of Rogers Jr. (3,642,567).

A. Claim 1

Claim 1 is directed to a pressure-sensitive adhesive sheet comprising (1) a composite film comprising a composition containing a urethane polymer and an acrylic polymer, wherein the urethane polymer and an acrylic polymer are present as individual components and/or are bonded together; (2) a first film comprising a material different from that of the composite film, the first film laminated on one side of the composite film, wherein the first film is made of at least one resin selected from the group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyimides, polyether ether ketones, polyvinyl chloride resins, polyvinylidene

chloride resins, polyamide resins, and polycarbonate resins; and (3) a pressure-sensitive adhesive layer formed on the other side of the composite film.

Barrera discloses an adhesive layer, IPN layer and a topcoat, provided in that order.

Rogers discloses an adhesive layer and a film, provided in that order.

Applicants respectfully submit that it would not have been obvious to select the Rogers' film formed from resins such as PET, polyethylene, polypropylene and use it in the topcoat layer of Barrera.

The structure of the adhering sheet of Rogers' invention is a water-soluble adhesive layer/ weather resistant film such as PET film. Thus, a base film is the weather resistant film, and the weather resistant film such as a PET film is placed *next to the adhesive layer*.

The structure of the adhering sheet of Barrera's invention is a PSA layer/IPN layer/fluoro-containing topcoat layer. Thus, a base film is the IPN layer and the IPN layer is placed *next to the adhesive layer* (namely, PSA layer). Therefore, there is no suggestion or motivation in combining these references to have a structure exchanging Barrera's fluoro-containing topcoat layer which is *not* placed next to the adhesive layer, with Rogers's weather resistant film which *is* placed next to the adhesive layer.

Invention	Barrera	Rogers
First film	Topcoat	
Composite film	IPN layer	First film
Adhesive layer	Adhesive layer	Adhesive layer

In other words, there is no teaching or suggestion for substituting the topcoat layer of Barrerra, which is the upper layer that is not next to the adhesive, with the first film of Rogers, which is provided as the film layered next to the adhesive.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is distinguishable from the combination of cited references.

B. Dependent Claims

The remaining rejections are directed to the dependent claims. The dependent claims are patentable by virtue of their dependency from claim 1.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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